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**Mike Coy**  
Director of Educational  
Technology

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**Patti Gaul**  
Director of Student Information  
Services



## San Dieguito Union High School District is Happy with their selection of Aeries as their Student Information System

The San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD) serves over 12,600 students at ten secondary school campuses. Mike Coy, Director of Educational Technology for SDUHSD stated “Management of student information is critically important to many of our district stakeholders.” This management and reporting of the student data becomes more complex each year as state and federal requirements continue to increase. Mike went on to say “In 2005, after experiencing some issues with the management and reporting of our student data, the SDUHSD felt the need to research and evaluate a better solution.”

### Identifying the Districts SIS needs:

Mike Coy and his staff identified the needs of the district and began evaluating Student Information System (SIS) options. The district realized they needed a system that would meet California state reporting requirements and at the same time provide an innovative solution that can evolve along with their long term technology vision and plan for the district. Mike’s team identified the following criteria as requirements for their next Student Information System:

- Cost effective
- Control and direct access to their data
- A proven solution in the California K-12 SIS environment (CSIS, Pre ID, etc.)
- Outstanding customer support
- Web-based access for their staff, parents and students

### SIS Evaluation and Selection:

Mike explained, “The process of selecting a new SIS can be overwhelming. Identifying the current and future functional and technical needs of the district, as well as researching and evaluating the various available Student Information Systems that meet these needs, requires a great deal of investigation.” Mike added, “Sometimes the best method of research is simply asking peer California districts experiencing success with their SIS what they are doing and how they are doing it.”

After a great deal of time and effort in researching and evaluating SIS options, the District selected Eagle Software and the Aeries Student Information System. SDUHSD has been using Aeries successfully for over two years.

### Cost and Return on Investment:

Purchasing a new SIS is a long-term decision and investment. It’s critical that the SIS you select is going to be there to support and grow with your district well into the future. Finding an affordable solution that is California focused and meets the

technical needs and culture of the district is crucial. A district needs to be able to evolve and expand into increased functionality and applications as they grow. The SIS needs to allow them to progress at the districts desired pace.

Mike Coy shared his enthusiasm for Aeries pricing model, "Overall the cost savings were huge. Aeries is not priced per student and is not a modular program. There are no add-on or additional modules. Everything Aeries has to offer, all the functionality is included in a site license. Aeries is not an expensive program to maintain. We need fewer staff to support Aeries than with our former SIS. We continue to save money every year since migrating to Aeries. We're so far in the black it has been such a money saver for us and I own all my own data. I can query anything anytime in Aeries. Ownership and control of your own data is key."

Patti Gaul, Director of Student Information Services expressed, "I can't believe that there are any districts in the state with more difficult data than we had to work with. Eagle was able to convert our data into Aeries without any issues. The Data Conversion process from our old SIS involved only myself and Aeries support. Without them there is no way we would have been successful."

### **Overall the move to Aeries SIS:**

Switching from one SIS to another is a complex task and challenging responsibility. Eagle Software has successfully implemented over 450 California educational organizations including K-12 School Districts, County Offices of Education, charter schools and private schools.

*"It is the best thing we ever did. I mean it's owning our own data. When we made the leap to Aeries we knew we made the right choice. Everything about Aeries is functional, it just keeps getting better. It grows and grows and grows and gets better and better and better."*

**Mike Coy**  
Director of Educational Technology

